6

3 - 1 1 - € - e

Date: November 23, 2000

Reference: 1041 / 5

Patent Claims

1. Device for producing a predeterminable volume of components of solution mixtures with a metering device for the solution mixture, a separator that is downstream of said metering device and is intended to separate out undesired components contained in the solution mixture, and a vacuum unit for concentrating the solution mixture, which is precleaned in the separator, to the predetermined volume, characterized in that a conveyor (6) having a predeterminable rate of flow is upstream of the separator (8) and a device (10) for preventing the flow rate of the conveyor from being affected by the vacuum present in the vacuum unit is upstream of the vacuum unit (12).

- 2. Device, as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the conveyor is a liquid pump (6), which is connected to a liquid reservoir (4) and which adds to the quantity of the solution mixture that is determined by the metering device (2) a carrier liquid (5), which is conveyed together with the solution mixture through the separator (8).
- 3. Device, as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the device for preventing an effect on the flow rate is a valve (10).

- 4. Device, as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that a back pressure regulator (10) is installed as the valve.
- 5. Device, as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the back pressure regulator includes a cylindrical housing, in which a sealing element (10c) can be pressed in the direction of the inflow opening of the housing by means of a helical spring (10b), which can be loaded by means of a setscrew (10a).
- 6. Device, as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that a hose, which has a defined internal volume (measurement loop) and in which the volume of the fed-in solution mixture can be determined, is used as the metering device (2).
- 7. Device, as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that a chromatographic column (8), through which the quantity of the solution mixture that is determined by the metering device (2) is passed through together with the carrier liquid (5), is used as the separator.